

## Commonwealth of Massachusetts

### **Division of Marine Fisheries**

251 Causeway Street, Suite 400 Boston, MA 02114 (617) 626.1520 Fax (617) 626.1509



Meeting Details: Tuesday September 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. Department of Conservation and Recreation's John Augustus Hall in West Boylston. (Directions next page) Contact: Bob Greco, DFG (617) 626.1556

### MarineFisheries Advisory September 7, 2004

# PUBLIC MEETING REGARDING REVIEW OF MASSACHUSETTS OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL LAW ENFORCEMENT

On Tuesday September 14<sup>th</sup>, the Environmental Law Enforcement Review Panel and the Management Assistance Team of the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies will hold a public meeting regarding the Office of Law Enforcement (Massachusetts Environmental Police). The public is invited to testify at this meeting and may also submit written testimony.

The Environmental Law Enforcement Review Panel was established in the spring of 2004 by the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs (EOEA). The panel has met several times and is working with the Management Assistance Team (MAT) to conduct a comprehensive review of the history of environmental law enforcement, take a present day look at the agency, make an assessment of the needs of constituents and agencies, and make recommendations for improvements for environmental law enforcement in Massachusetts.

The Management Assistance Team has conducted more than 40 individual interviews of constituents, environmental police officers, and other employees throughout EOEA, has held several focus group meetings, and is conducting a survey of constituents. In an effort to involve anyone interested in this topic, the panel and the MAT are asking the public to attend the meeting and to express their views regarding the Office of Law Enforcement. After gathering information at the public meeting, the Management Assistance Team intends to finalize its report and submit recommendations to the Environmental Law Enforcement Review Panel in October. The panel will then review the MAT report and submit final recommendations to the Secretary of the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs.

To accommodate as many people as possible, people speaking at the public meeting will be limited to five minutes of testimony, and are free to talk about any aspects of the Office of Law Enforcement. In order for the process to be helpful for the consultant's review process, the MAT has asked that presenters at the public hearing consider the following questions when expressing their views about the Office of Law Enforcement:

- Do you feel that the Commonwealth is getting good service from the Office of Law Enforcement?
- How do you think we can improve the services the agency provides?
- Do you anticipate the need for environmental law enforcement services to increase or decrease in the coming years, and in what areas?
- What do you see as the two biggest constraints to improving the Office of Law Enforcement (excluding funding and staffing)?

- Do you think that another law enforcement entity could provide environmental law enforcement services in Massachusetts more effectively than the Office of Law Enforcement?
- How would you rate the Office of Law Enforcement's level of responsiveness to reported tips?
- In general, do you feel that you have an adequate opportunity to express what you feel is needed for services from the Office of Law Enforcement?

The Environmental Law Enforcement Review Panel and the Management Assistance Team of the International Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies greatly appreciate your contributions to this process.

Following are directions to the site of the public meeting:

John Augustus Hall
Department of Conservation and Recreation
Division of Water Supply Protection
180 Beaman Street
West Boylston, MA 01583
(508) 792-7423 (508) 835-4816

### FROM THE EAST, VIA MASS PIKE:

- From East via Mass Pike take Route 495 North (Exit 11)
- Follow Route 495 North approximately 7 miles to Route 290 West
- Follow Route 290 West approximately 7 miles to Route 140 North
- Follow Route 140 North approximately 6 miles, you will be riding along the shore of the Washusett Reservoir, then through the center of West Boylston and across a causeway over the reservoir to your left
- The DCR office is set back from Route 140 (Beaman St.) to the right and is the next building on the right after the old stone church. You will see signs for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Department of Public Health, and the Department of Conservation and Recreation, Division of Water Supply Protection.
- Drive around the right side of the building. Parking is in the rear. Enter at the loading dock door.

### FROM WEST VIA MASS PIKE:

- Follow Mass. Pike East to Route 290 East
- Follow Route 290 East to Route 190 North
- Follow Route 190 North to Exit 4 (Route 12 North)
- Follow Route 12 North to the junction of Route 140 and take Route 140 North
- Follow Route 140 North across the causeway over Wachusett Reservoir (you will see an old stone church on the reservoir shore to your left). The DCR office is set back from Route 140 (Beaman St.) to the right, the next building on the right after the old stone church. You will see signs for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Department of Public Health, and the Department of Conservation and Recreation, Division of Water Supply Protection.
- Drive around the right side of the building. Parking is in the rear. Enter at the loading dock door.

### FROM ROUTE 2:

- Follow Route 2 to Leominster (either from the east or west) and take Route 190 South.
- Follow Route 190 South to Route 140 South approximately 9 miles.
- Follow Route 140 South for approximately 1 mile (you will cross over the Stillwater River). The Facility will be set back from Route 140 on the left. You will see signs for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Department of Public Health, and the Department of Conservation and Recreation, Division of Water Supply Protection.
- Drive around the right side of the building and park in the rear of the building. Enter at the loading dock door.